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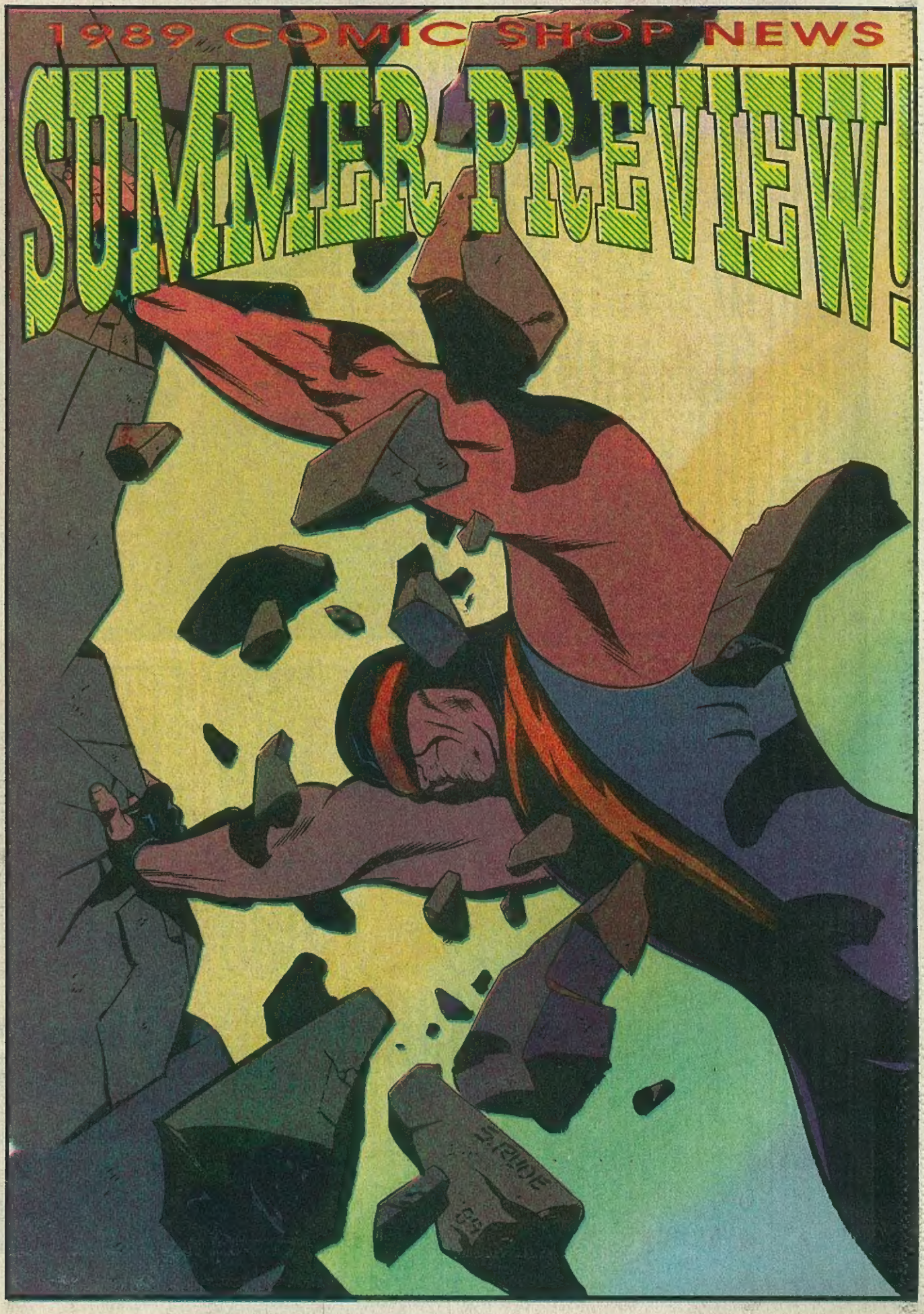


SUMMER PREVIEW!

SUMMERS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BIG COMIC BOOK SEASONS--BUT THE SUMMER OF 1989 IS SHAPING UP TO BE THE BIGGEST SUMMER EVER! MORE BOOKS, MORE GRAPHIC NOVELS, MORE TRADE PAPERBACKS, MORE LIMITED EDITIONS, MORE COMICS-RELATED T-SHIRTS, STATUETTES, BUTTONS, AND CAPS--THE KEY WORD IS *MORE!* ***CSN's Summer Preview*** CAN'T COVER *EVERYTHING* HAPPENING IN EVERY COMIC FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS, BUT WE *CAN* GIVE YOU A COMPANY-BY-COMPANY LOOK AT THE IMPORTANT NEW SERIES, EVENTS, AND PROJECTS YOU'LL BE SEEING ON THE COMIC SHOP SHELVES THIS SEASON.

Aardvark-Vanaheim

Dave Sim continues to offer two ***Cerebus*** titles, one original and one reprint. The ongoing ***Cerebus*** monthly continues with Jaka's Story, as told by Sim and Gerhard. The second title, ***Cerebus Bi-Weekly***, offers faithful facsimile reprintings of the original issues of ***Cerebus***, complete with background information and a bonus original page called, appropriately enough, "The Single Page."

Abacus Press

Abacus Press will release the long-awaited fourth issue of ***Panda Khan*** by Dave Garcia this June. Two months later, Abacus will offer a reprinting of the long-sold-out first issue of ***Panda Khan*** for those who missed the beginning of the story.

AC Comics

AC has an active line of new comics in addition to their growing number of reprint titles. The ***Femforce***-related books dominate their new line; in June, AC will present ***The Untold Origin of the Femforce*** #1 in a 68-page $4.95 one-shot that features a full-length new origin story plus a reprint of the hard-to-find ***Femforce #1***.

A month later, AC will offer a Femforce triple header; not only will ***Femforce #20*** be one sale, but AC will also release a ***Femforce button set*** and a ***Femforce poster*** to commemorate both the title's success and AC's 20th year of publishing.

In August, AC presents the origins of two of the members of Femforce in a pair of first issues. ***Untold Origin of Ms. Victory #1*** presents Bill Marimon's tale of Ms. Victory's first battle against Panzer, while ***Curse of the She-Cat*** by Misson and Nadolsky gives readers some insight into the earliest exploits of this very popular heroine.

AC will present a variety of reprints of classic Golden Age material from 1947 to 1955, including ***Thun'da, King of the Congo #1*** (featuring material by Bob Powell--June); ***Amazon Warriors #1*** (again, Bob Powell artwork for stories about lost cities and fabulous amazons--June), ***Blazing Western #1*** (John Buscema, Bob Powell, John Severin, and Syd Shores artwork--June); ***Young Hero #1*** (featuring Biro's and Maurer's Little Wise Guy stories--August); and ***Black Phantom #1*** (reprinting Frank Bolle western-adventure stories with a glamorous heroine--August). AC plans to continue its line of reprints under a separate imprint, the AC Collector Classics line.

Aircel

Aircel has a number of new projects, most of which involve popular writer/artist Barry Blair. In June, Aircel will present a Japanese-influenced Barry Blair superhero series, ***Team: Nippon #1***. This series features young superheroes determined to eliminate the criminal element from Chinatown. ($1.95)

Blair is a busy, busy man; June will also see the release of the revamped Warlock Five with a new series, ***Warlock Five Book II #1***, written and illustrated by Blair. This series will present major renovations to the recent Warlock 5 universe, introducing new characters and altering the relationships among others. ($2)

In July, Barry Blair's work takes a turn in a very different direction when ***Leather and Lace #1*** ships in two different formats: an adults-only edition that will feature nudity and sexual situations, and a regular version that will be redrawn and rewritten to contain no nudity or sexual content. This dual-format approach will allow readers of all ages to follow Blair's latest series, which features the adventures of a young woman who hopes to locate her missing sister. The woman quickly falls into the hands of a white slaver--only to be saved by a leather-clad woman she's never seen before. ($2.50 for the adult version; $1.95 for the standard version)

In August, Blair is back again with ***Jake Thrash #1***, a 96-page edition that will contain the previously-published ***Jake Thrash*** #1 and #2 as well as the never-before-released ***Jake Thrash #3***. The volume is a perfect one for completists, since it will also contain the six-page Jake Thrash preview from 1987. ($3.95)

Another Rainbow

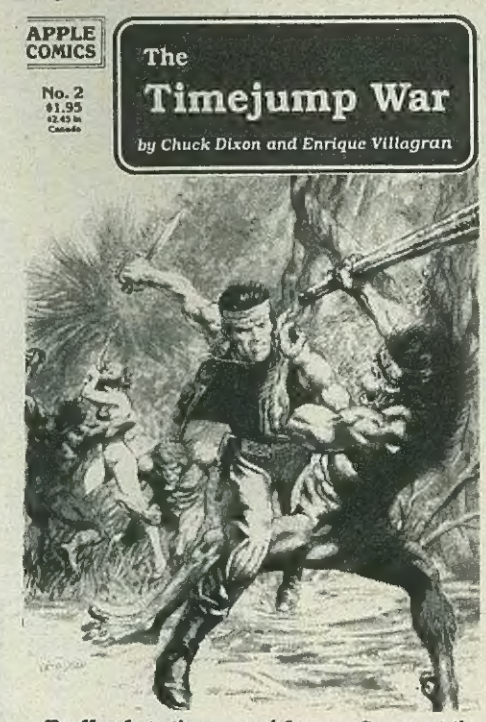
Carl Barks Library Volume V, reprinting ***Uncle Scrooge 44-71***, is scheduled for July release. This handsome oversized slipcased set is a companion volume to the earlier Barks Library editions, and is priced at $110. At he same time the Library edition is released, a portfolio featuring the covers to those issues will be available as well. ($25)

Apple

Chuck Dixon, the popular and prolific author of a variety of series for a number of companies, will kick off his sf series ***The TimeJump War*** for Apple this summer; the three-issue limited series deals with a tim-travelling battle for survival as two pilots find themselves stranded in the prehistoric pastk, where they must organize a tribe of cavemen to do battle against alien invaders. Enrique Villagran is the artist for the three-issue series that will appear throughout the summer months. ($1.95 per issue)

The ***Retief Graphic Novel***, reprinting the superb Jan Strnad/Dennis Fujitake six-issue series about an interplanetary diplomat (based on Keith Laumer's character), is set for summer release. It will be highlighted by a new cover by Dennis Fujitake, and is a must-have for fans of cleverly-written humor and adventure. ($14.95)

In July, two series formerly published by Comico find their new homes at Apple: ***Fish Police #18*** continues the adventures of Steve Moncuse's Inspector Gill from a new publisher--and this issue will explore Gill's origins. ($1.95-$2.25)



Trollords is the second former-Comico-title that is finding a new Apple home. The first issue of the ***Trollords: Death and Kisses*** limited series will kick off with a ***Batman*** parody; the same issue will feature a modern-day Phantom of the Opera, while future plotlines take the Trollords into a baseball game against Death, a confrontation with a trauma from the past, and more. Strazewski, Augustyn, Beaderstadt, and Fricke will be on hand to continue their telling of the popular Trollords adventures. ($1.95 first issue- $2.25 thereafter)

Archie

Archie has several new titles continuing through the summer, including the very popular ***Archie 3000*** series and ***Dilton's Strange Science.*** In their Archie Adventure Line, the ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** will continue their all-new adventures on a monthly basis, and ***Bayou Billy*** will feature Nintendo-inspired action on a bi-monthly schedule.

Blackthorne

Blackthorne's big title for the summer is ***Moonwalker in 3-D,*** an 8-issue limited series based on the Michael Jackson video. The first issue has been approved by Jackson's company and will be reaching stores sometime in June; future issues should follow on a more-or-less monthly basis.

Battletech is returning after a several month hiatus, as is ***Star Wars in 3-D***, featuring new adventures in the Star Wars universe. ($2-$2.50

Nightmare on Elm Street in 3-D, an eight issue limited series inspired by the popular Freddy Krueger film series, will tell the story of ***Nightmare on Elm Street V: The Dream Child***, along with original stories, in three dimensions. ($2.50)

Caliber Press

Caliber will continue its popular series ***Crow, The Realm, Deadworld,*** and ***Baker Street*** throughout the summer; the company has gotten off to a slow start, but they are optimistic that books will appear more regularly during the summer months.

The Realm will spin off a new one-shot in June or July when ***Silverfawn #1*** appears, telling the story of pre-Realm happenings involving Silverfawn, who is sold into slavery as a young girl. ($1.95) In August, an earlier ***Realm*** limited series, ***Legendlore***, is collected into a 112-page trade paperback for those who missed it the first time. ($8.95)

Cheerleaders From Hell #1 is a B-Movie come to life in comics form as a group of "beautiful bimbos battle a battalion of bloodthirsty babes from beyond." This one-shot will feature 48 pages of story for $2.50.

Also due in July is a reprint trade paperback collecting the first three issues of ***The Last Generation*** into a single 96-page volume; this book should appear at almost the same time as ***The Last Generation #4*** hits the stands. ($6.95)

In August, Caliber has several new projects on line. Two new comics series, ***Frost*** and ***Hot Shots***, are finding new homes at Caliber after previous incarnations from Amazing Comics and Hot Comics respectively. ***Frost #1*** presents Kevin Van Hook's story of troubleshooter Jack Frost and his investigation of the bizarre murder of a young woman. ***Hot Shots*** is a futuristic story of a group of law-enforcement agents known as the Eco-Cops, who act to protect the environment. This manga-style comic is illustrated by former ***Speed Racer*** artist Gary Thomas Washington. ($1.95 @)

Varcel's Vixens is a new fantasy adventure done in the anthropomorphic tradition of the Aniverse; it features a 64-page fantasy tale of a magical sword and the exploits involved with it. ($6.95)

Catalan

June brings more adult storytelling from Milo Manara in ***An Author in Search of Six Characters,*** a graphic novel about a director making a film with a script that keeps changing, placing the heroine in one erotic situation after another. ($11.95) Bilal is represented with ***The Ranks of the Black Order***, a graphic novel about a left-wing militant group's struggle to eradicate their enemies.

In July, Catalan will offer ***Odalisque,*** an art print signed by artist Milo Manara ($80); and ***Mousetrap,*** a silkscreen print signed by artist Art Spiegelman ($140).

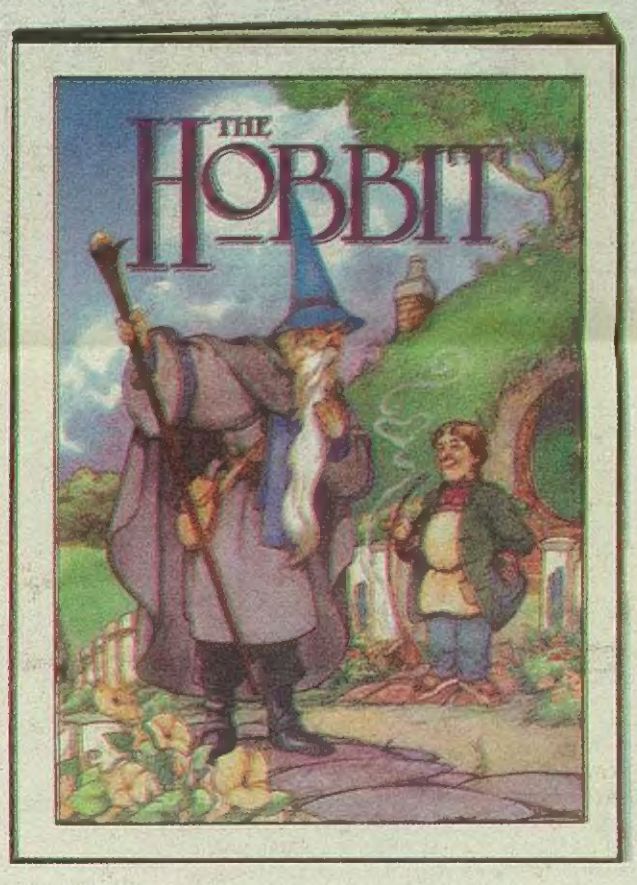
August brings a portfolio featuring eight color plates by Richard Corben illustrating scenes from ***The Bodyssey***, an erotic graphic novel ($50); and a five postcard set featuring art by Dutch surrealist HR Giger ($5).

Comcat

Moebius' and Marc Bati's fantasy adventure series ***The Magic Crystal*** is brought to America in June; the graphic album tells the story of the havoc caused when a magic crystal is replaced with a "black crystal"--and what must be done to restore order. ($6.95)

Eclipse

James Bond will be very big for Eclipse this summer. First, the first issue of their long-delayed ***James Bond 007*** limited series by Mike Grell, originally announced in our Winter Preview, is finally making it into the comic shops in June. ($3.95) Then, in late June, the ***License to Kill graphic album*** adapting this summer's James Bond film will be available. Grell, Austen, Yeates, and Woch all team up to illustrate this 48-page adaptation. ($6.95)



The other big Eclipse project that's been delayed for several months is ***Tapping the Vein***, the comics adaptation of Clive Barker's ***Books of Blood.*** ***Tapping the Vein*** #1 is finally set for June release, although the price for this 64-page prestige-format series featuring work by some of the top talents in the field has increased to $6.95 per issue.

Jim Steranko's cover is a real eye-catcher on ***The Return of Valkyrie Graphic Novel***, which reprints ***Airboy #1-5*** in a single volume. ($7.95) Eclipse is so confident that everyone will love the Steranko cover, in fact, that they're planning to offer a lithograph of that painting in September.

Dirty Pair was quite a hit for Eclipse this winter and spring--and that's why the anime team is returning in ***Dirty Pair II #1,*** on sale in mid-to-late June. The same creators responsible for the first series--Toren Smith and Adam Warren--are handling the honors for this tale of Kei and Yuri, whose vacation is interrupted by a confrontation with Shasti, a fellow 3WA agent who betrayed them and is now a wanted criminal. ($2)

Bob Boze Bell's ***Honkytonk Sue: In the Man Canyon*** brings back the underground heroine Honkytonk Sue in a 112-page black and white graphic album that involves white water, tan men, souped up Winnebagos, a hatbox filled with money, and the Hupai Indian tribe. Who says comics aren't exciting? ($9.95)

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Scout: War Shaman comes to an end this summer with ***Scout*** #15 and #16, on sale in June and July; Scout fans shouldn't worry, though--Timothy Truman promises that Scout will be back in a series of graphic novels in 1990 or 1991. Meanwhile, Eclipse will reprint the original ***Scout #8-14*** in a trade paperback edition in July under the title ***Scout: Mount Fire***. ($14.95)

The ***Bush League Trading Cards*** is Eclipse's latest entry in the political-trading-card field; this is a 36-card set featuring the key players in the Bush-Quayle administration, presented as if they were minor-league baseball players. ***The Bush League*** should be available in July; meanwhile, the long-awaited Bill Sienkiewicz-illustrated ***Friendly Dictators*** trading card set is planned for June release. ($8.95 @)

Eclipse boldly goes where few comics have gone before when they release ***Orbit #1*** in July. This prestige-format comic will adapt science fiction stories from ***Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine***--as well as some by Asimov himself--and will feature prominent creators in the comics field. ($3.95)

Toadswart, a gothic series that originally appeared in ***Epic Illustrated,*** will be collected into a black and white graphic novel in July. Tim Conrad is the writer and artist for this fantasy adventure. ($9.95)

The Adolescent Radioactive Black Belt Hamsters are back in a trade paperback set for early August release. This reprint of ***Hamsters #1-4*** also features a new story in which they battle some sewer-dwelling, materialistic turtles named after famous artists. Go figure.... ($9.95)

Eclipse's major summer foray into the superhero field will begin in August when ***Black Terror #1*** debuts. Fans of the ***Punisher*** will enjoy this pulpish story of a crime-fighter who takes on the organized crime Capone family in an alternate-earths setting. Chuck Dixon, Beau Smith, and Dan Brereton are confident that this hard-hitting prestige-format series will please everyone who enjoys gritty adventure. ($3.95)

Zot! has quite a memorable summer lined up; the first ***Zot!*** trade paperback collection, ***The Original Zot! Book One*** will appear in mid-August, reprinting ***Zot! #1-5*** in full color. ($9.95) A couple of weeks later, ***Zot! #30*** will be the *first scented comic* when it hits the comic shops. ($2.50) To answer the next question that's already on your mind: ***The Original Zot! Book Two*** is set for October release.

Appleseed Books One and Two have been very successful, so why should fans expect anything less of ***Appleseed Book Three*** when it begins this August? The series will feature the next story cycle by Masamune Shirow; the first issue will be a special 56-page story. ($2.95)

The biggest Eclipse project of the year first appears in late August. The archetypical fantasy work of the 20th Century, ***The Hobbit,*** is being adapted into a three-issue prestige-format miniseries by Chuck Dixon and David Wenzel. Eclipse is confident that this will be one of the most popular comics of al time--and judging from ***The Hobbit***'s popularity, why should anyone doubt them? ($3.95)

Comico

The long-awaited ***Rocketeer Adventure Magazine #2*** will finally appear in July, featuring the Rocketeer and ~~The Shadow~~ a large-nosed character reminiscent of a pulp hero as only Dave Stevens can depict 'em. ($2.75) To warm fans up for the new issue, Comico will release a ***Rocketeer poster*** in July featuring the Stevens/Dorman painting from the front cover of this issue. ($6.95)

Star Blazers, the new five issue limited series, will continue throughout the summer, featuring a new story plotted by the late Markalan Joplin. Foglio, Rice, Fong, and Anderson unite to tell the story of the Argo's latest exploits. ($1.95)

A new ***Grendel*** storyline begins in August as Matt Wagner and Tim Sale bring readers the stories of Grendel-Khan and Pellon Cross in each issue. ($2.50)

In September, Comico will bring back ***E-Man*** in a one-shot by series creators Nick Cuti and Joe Staton. The all-new issue will also feature the return of Mike Mauser. This is a trial for a possible new E-Man series for 1990. ($2.95)

Comics Interview

Comics Revue, the popular comic strip reprint magazine, has found a new home at Comics Interview. How does this affect its many fans? Well, Comics Interview promises that we're going to see ***Comics Revue*** on schedule at last! ($3.95)

In June, Comics Interview will reprint their ***Watchmen special issue*** in a $4.95 deluxe special edition. ($4.95) In August, they're offering a massive ***Batman special issue*** of ***Comics Interview*** that will feature almost a hundred pages of interviews with a variety of creators involved in Batman's early days, Batman's modern exploits, and Batman the film. ($9.95)

Prime Comics, a new imprint of Comics Interview, kicks off this summer with ***Vanguard: Outpost Earth***, a three issue limited series about an alien soldier's attack on Russia. The bi-monthly series should begin in June. ($2)

Dark Horse

Anyone who hasn't taken Dark Horse seriously in the past will have to do some major re-thinking as Dark Horse becomes a force to be reckoned with this summer!

Dark Horse's mega-success, ***Aliens*** by Marks Verheiden and Nelson, should finish its six-issue run this June and July. ($1.95) Waiting to follow it almost immediately into the comic shops is the stunning ***Aliens II*** limited series. This four-issue series, written by Mark Verheiden, picks up where the last limited series left off and Hicks and Newt away from an Alien-infested Earth--and straight into the confines of a Marine base where a general has an insane plan to train Aliens for use in combat! Fans of the first series have speculated that finding an artist as good as Nelson would be difficult, but Dark Horse has proven that they can do it: Denis Beauvais full-color, fully painted artwork makes this one of the best-illustrated books of 1989! Dark Horse is confident that this one will come out on a regular monthly schedule once the first series is finished. ($2.25)

Dark Horse's film-adaptation success will continue with ***Predator,*** a four-issue limited series inspired by the Arnold Schwarzenegger film. ($2.25) In this monthly series set to run throughout the summer, Dutch Schaefer's big brother finds the Predators are loose in New York--and he sets off to South America to find out what's happened to his brother Dutch and just what the Predators' plans are. Mark Verheiden, Chris Warner, and Sam DelaRosa will make this action-packed series just as exciting as ***Aliens***-and wait until this fall, when the two series crossover into an ***Aliens-Vs.-Predator*** limited series!...

Dark Horse's move into color continues with their first Roy Thomas-written Robert E. Howard adaptations. ***Robert E. Howard's Kings of the Night*** features very impressive Windsor-Smith-inspired artwork by Gary Barker in this ***Bran Mak Morn*** two-issue limited series that should appear in June and July.

In July through October, Thomas and E.R. Cruz adapt ***Tigers of the Sea,*** the Robert E. Howard Cormac Mac Art novel, to comics form. ($2.25) Conan fans still fondly remember Thomas' faithful adaptations of Howard's work, and will be glad to see both of these full color series.

Mayhem, the new 40-page anthology book featuring The Mask, Mecha, and The Mark, should please fans who have lamented the absence of these books on the Dark Horse schedule. The series have been given a new look and a new direction in this anthology, so even new readers will be able to jump in with ***Mayhem #1*** in June. ($2.50)

Mike Kaluta makes his home at Dark Horse for a while with a full-color summer adaptation of the upcoming James Cameron film ***The Abyss.*** Scheduled for July release, this two issue mini-series will be published bi-weekly to get it into fans' hands almost at the same time the film is released. The story focuses on an underwater drilling crew who becomes involved in a Navy plan to rescue the crew of a sub-marine lost in a deep water trench in the Caribbean. It sounds like a good plan--but then something strange and terrifying occurs... Kaluta has turned out some of his best art in years for this series--and if that isn't enough to entice art fans to pick it up, maybe the inclusion of Moebius pre-production artwork is! ($2.25 per issue)

July will also bring readers the first issue of Dark Horse's new international comics anthology prepared in conjunction with NBM, ***Cheval Noir.*** This 64-page perfect-bound black-and-white monthly anthology book will feature some of the most prominent names in international comics, including Phillipe Druillet, Jaques Tardi, Andreas, John Bolton, Geoffrey Darrow, and more. All of this will be available each month for a bargain $3.50 an issue.

Dark Horse has a pair of color specials on line for July and August. In July, ***Trekker Color Special #1*** features a full-length Ron Randall story that tells to origins of Mercy St. Clair in a tale that has her hunting down an assassin who turns out to be her former lover! In August, Mark Verheiden's popular "patriotic" hero appears in ***The American Color Special #1.*** This issue's grim story forces Hough to confront his problems, including alcoholism and his role in the death of a young boy. Each color special will contain 40 pages for $2.95.

Finally, in August, Dark Horse will present a must-have issue of ***Dark Horse Presents. DHP #34*** will lead off with an Aliens cover and an Aliens story by Randy Stradley and Chris Warner. This story will eventually tie in with the Predator story in ***DHP*** #35 and #36, and the three stories together will preface the carnage that Dark Horse will unleash in ***Aliens Vs. Predator***, their mini-series that'll be the hit of the fall.

DC

This summer will be DC's biggest season in many years; the ***Batman*** film will bring a great deal of attention to their many Batman projects, of course. DC isn't relying on ***Batman*** to make this a great summer, though; they have a huge number of new series and special comics events that'll give fans something to look for every week!

El Diablo #3

Hawkworld is DC's biggest summer series. Timothy Truman, joined by inker Alcatena, will present the redefined origin of one of DC's oldest heroes. Truman is quite a fan of the Fox-Kubert Hawkman tales, and he manages to do them justice in this story that presents Kata Hol's early days as a police officer on Thanagar. This prestige-format series is one of the most visually impressive books DC has done in many years, and will be a must-have item throughout the summer. ($3.95)

For fans who want a handsome edition compiling all those legendary Fox-Kubert Hawkman stories from ***Brave and Bold,*** DC has a ***Hawkman trade paperback*** set for August release. All six issues will be collected in this volume, along with a new cover and introduction by Joe Kubert. ($19.95)

Of course, the ***Batman*** books will be getting their fair share of attention as well. Not only will DC have the ***Batman Movie Adaptation*** by Denny O'Neil and Jerry Ordway coming up in two formats in June--a prestige format computer-colored edition priced at $4.95 and a standard-format edition priced at $2.50--but they're also promoting ***Batman*** and ***Detective*** to bi-weekly status during the summer to tell two stories sure to please long time Batman fans.

Batman: Year Three is a four-parter running through ***Batman #436-439*** this June and July. This story will focus on Batman's reactions to the Death of Jason Todd and his memories of his first adventures with a young Dick Grayson, who become the first Robin. Marv Wolfman, Pat Broderick,

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SUMMER PREVIEW!

and John Beatty have produced a rivetting story that every Batman fan will want to own. (75¢-$1)

In July and August, ***Detective Comics #604-607*** will feature a four-issue Alan Grant-Norm Breyfogle story, The Mudpack, that unites three Clayfaces in their war with Batman. Two issues in this series will also feature bound-in mini-posters featuring paintings by Breyfogle. Tying in with this series is ***Secret Origins #44***, a mid-July release that will feature the origins of all three Clayfaces.

Detective Comics Annual #2, scheduled for early August release, will present Mark Waid's, Bryan Augustyn's and Val Semeiks' look at the "Lost Years of Batman" in a story that takes Batman back to the place where he first learned his deductive skills. ($2)

The ***Batman Button Set #3*** will reach comic shops in mid-August; this final set of four buttons will feature artwork by Brian Bolland, Frank Miller, Dave Mazzuchelli, and Berni Wrightson on a quartet of buttons mounted on a comics-sized card, just like the other two sets. Once again, there will be a strictly-limited numbered set of buttons and a run of non-limited sets as well, just to keep up with the bat-demand.

Batman fans won't want to miss the five-part story that begins at the end of August in ***Batman #440*** and crosses over with two issues of ***New Titans*** as well. "A Lonely Place of Dying" brings Dick Grayson back in Batman's life once again as Batman seems to be out of control; this series will determine if Batman needs a Robin to balance his dark side. DC promises that this five-parter will lead into some major changes in the Batman mythos this fall, so don't miss any of these five parts.

Another Secret Origins--this time ***Secret Origins Special #1***--will focus on Batman in August. This special 64-page issue will feature the origins of The Riddler by Neil Gaiman and Bernie Mireault; The Penguin by Alan Grant and Sam Kieth; and Two-Face by Mark Verheiden and Simon Bisley. ($2)

For Batman fans who missed out on DC's two hardcovers this past winter, ***The Greatest Batman Stories Ever Told*** ($15.95) and ***The Greatest Joker Stories Ever Told*** ($14.95) are set for trade paperback release, complete with new covers by Walt Simonson and Brian Bolland, respectively.

Green Arrow also goes bi-weekly during June and July in a four-part storyline by Grell, Jurgens, Giordano, and McLaughlin. "Blood of the Dragon" brings Shadow back as an assassin--but not by choice. She must kill again because the Yakuza hold her newborn child as their captive. This storyline will appear in ***Green Arrow #21-24***. In September, ***Green Arrow #25*** will be illustrated by guest artist Trevor Von Eeden, and will take GA to England where he will meet John Constantine of ***Hellblazer*** as he tries to help a woman who may or may not be a witch. ($1.25 @)

El Diablo, a new Texas-based costumed hero very much in the Spirit tradition, debuts in an extra-long 48-page $2.50 first issue in late June. Gerard Jones, Mike Parobeck, and John Nyberg tell this tale of a city councilman turned adventurer who hopes to clean up his hometown of Dos Rios, Texas.

The ***Legion of Super-Heroes*** comes to an end with its sixty-third issue in late June when "The Magic Wars" concludes. Don't fret, though; a new ***Legion*** series is on line for September release, picking up five years after the current series--and in the meantime, ***LEGION '89*** will continue as a monthly comic to satisfy that LEGION hunger.

Walt Simonson fans will have a new addition to their bookshelves in early July; that's when DC has scheduled ***The Art of Walter Simonson*** for trade paperback release. This 208-page edition will collect a wide variety of Simonson's work for DC, and will include unpublished sketches and commentary on all of the pieces by Simonson. ($19.95)

DC is set for a Star Trek Summer beginning in late June, when ***Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*** is adapted into comics form by Peter David and James Fry, the team responsible for the ***Blasters Special*** last spring. This 48-page $2 adaptation is just the beginning, though, because in August, DC is unveiling not one but *two* new Star Trek series.

Star Trek will present the adventures of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, and the rest of the Enterprise crew. This monthly comic will be produced by the same team responsible for the movie adaptation--and fans with good memories will recall that Peter David was the writer of the ***Star Trek*** series at the end of its first DC run as well, so they know how good his work in this series will be. $1.50)

Star Trek: The Next Generation, debuting at the end of August, will present new monthly adventures by Jan Friedman and Pablo Marcos. Friedman has written ***Star Trek*** and ***Next Generation*** novels prior to coming to this series; Marcos was the artist on DC's successful ***Next Generation*** limited series a couple of years ago. ($1.50)

Justice Inc, the two-issue limited series previously announced for winter/spring release, has finally been put on the schedule for July. This prestige-format fully painted mini-series will present Richard Benson, The Avenger, in 1948, where he becomes involved with The Agency in a plan to infiltrate third world nations and impersonate their leaders. DC will publish this limited series on a bi-weekly basis, meaning that fans will be able to read the entire 96-page storyline by Andrew Helfer and Kyle Baker without unbearable waits between issues. ($3.95)

Doctor Fate gets his own annual this year; ***Doctor Fate Annual #1*** features the art of Tom Sutton in a story that confronts Eric with the spirit apparition of his deceased mother. ($2.95) Meanwhile, Doctor Fate continues in his mystic adventures in his own book--and his fans will certainly enjoy ***Doctor Fate #11***, on sale in early September, which brings the good Doctor face-to-face with Darkseid! ($1.50)

Superman has quite a summer in store; ***Action*** returns as the third monthly Superman title in June, and then there's a creative juggling act in July that alters the teams on all the Superman books. The revised creative teams feature George Perez, Dan Jurgens, and Jerry Ordway on

Adventures of Superman; Jerry Ordway, Kerry Gammill, and Dennis Janke on ***Superman***; and Roger Stern, George Perez, and Brett Breeding on ***Action***. Meanwhile, Superman will guest star in ***Starman #14***, on sale in early August, in a story written by Roger Stern and illustrated by Tom Lyle.

After a few months off, ***Swamp Thing*** returns to the DC schedule in August, complete with a new creative team and a new ending for the controversial multi-part time-travel story. Doug Wheeler and Tom Yeates take the Swamp Thing back to the Dawn of Man in this issue. In late August, the new ending to the time-travel-storyline will appear, explaining the secret of the mysterious shard of amber. ($1.50)

Longtime fans will remember the famous Justice League-Justice Society crossovers of the 1960's and 1970's; now that there are two Justice League books, crossovers like this are possible once again--and that's just what's happening in ***Justice League America #31***, ***Justice League Europe #7***, and ***Justice League America #32***. The two Justice Leagues joint adventure is written by Giffen and DeMatteis; new series artist Adam Hughes (formerly of ***MAZE Agency***) takes over JLA with this series, while Bart Sears continues on JLE. ($1 @)

The Shadow returns to DC in August--but this time it's the original Shadow set in his original era--the 1930's! Gerard Jones and Eduardo Barretto bring fans all-new adventures of the Shadow in stories that will evoke memories of some of the best Shadow pulp adventures. ($1.75)

Gammarauders, a TSR/DC crossover, is on it way out of the comic shop this fall--but its replacement title will show up for the first time in August. ***Forgotten Realms #1*** by Jeff Grubb and R.A. Morales will be based on the popular TSR games system, and will tell the story of Priam Agrivar and the Realms Master, an unusual ship with an even more unusual crew. ($1.50)

Eternity

This summer, Eternity leads off with a "monster book" that isn't just another monster book. ***Werewolf at Large #1***, scheduled to reach comic shops in June, is the story of Martin Cross, who is just like any other normal guy, except that he turns into a werewolf when the moon is full. He's pretty well adjusted to his problem, and in fact makes us of his werewolfism from time to time. Bennett and Ross play up the human side of Cross in this bi-monthly series. ($2.25)

Video Classics #1 is a new reprint title from Eternity; the first issue, a hefty 60-page book priced at $3.50, will feature seven classic Mighty Mouse stories.

Eternity has become very well known for their classic comic strip reprints; they've managed to locate good, clean copies of a variety of popular strips, including Sherlock Holmes, The Saint, and The Shadow. The latest strip reprint to be added to their schedule won't be a comic book series when it debuts in July; instead, it'll be a graphic novel collecting the 1930's ***Fu Manchu*** comic strips in one black and white volume. The strip, written by Sax Rohmer, presents two complete Fu Manchu stories from the original series run. ($9.95)

If your summer budget's already beginning to look a bit strained after you've flipped through this preview, then you can thank the folks at Eternity for making the first two issues of ***Shuriken: Cold Steel*** bargains at 95¢ each. S.A. Bennett, Christopher Taylor, and Derrick Richardson have teamed up to bring Shuriken into the 1990's in a story that gives her a new role as a bodyguard and model. Look for it in July.

Scimidar Volume 2 #1 was a runaway hit for Eternity this spring, and everyone is predicting the same quick sellout for ***Scimidar Volume 2 #2*** in July. The same team of Jones, Davis, and Baldwin will continue the mature-readers-only adventures of Scimidar in the near future; in this issue, she tracks down a cannibalistic lady-killer; the story continues into the third issue, on sale in August. ($2.25)

Tiger-X remains a very popular series; not only is the somewhat-delayed new ***Tiger-X*** series on line for this summer, but a ***Tiger-X Graphic Novel*** reprinting the original Ben

Dunn installments of the series will be available as well. Dale Keown of ***Dragonforce*** is doing a new cover for the graphic novel. ($9.95)

The Trouble With Girls is back at Eternity beginning this July, and the absence of color doesn't seem to hurt the book at all. Thanks to its brief run at Comico, there should be more fans than ever looking for this title. The first Eternity issue takes Les Girls back to his all-too-dull home-town. ($1.95) For those who missed the early issues of this series, Eternity will be offering a second ***Trouble With Girls Graphic Novel***, reprinting ***Trouble With Girls #4-6***.

Fantaco

Gore Shriek has been very successful with fans of graphic horror, but some people felt it was a bit *too* graphic. In response to those concerns, Fantaco will begin a new horror series with ***Shriek #1***, in June/July; the first issue will feature 64 magazine-sized pages of horror stories by such creators as Kevin Eastman, Eric Talbot, Olivier Morissette, Clive Barker, and others. ($4.95)

Fantagor

While ***Den*** continues to dominate Fantagor's summer line-up, it certainly isn't their *only* publication for the season. In August, Fantagor will release the ***Jeremy Brood Graphic Novel***, a 64-page full-color collection that combines Jeremy Brood: Relativity from 1982 and "The Big Shriek" from Brood in 1983 into a single volume. Fans of Strnad and Corben will most certainly enjoy this science fiction tale about an intergalactic social worker who finds himself promoted to godhood! Because of violence, nudity, and sexual content, Jeremy Brood is recommended for adults. ($11.95)

If you thought that comics was the only direction Richard Corben's creativity travelled in, you'll be pleasantly surprised with ***The Dark Planet Video*** from Fantagor in August. This 94-minute videotape combines live action and Claymation in two Corbenesque adventures filled with special effects; Corben and Bruce Jones are the auteurs behind ***The Dark Planet***, which is available in VSH only. ($25)

Fantagraphics

The long-awaited ***Spain's Trashman Lives!*** trade paperback, announced for last fall, has been finally put back on the Fantagraphics schedule for June/July release. This book will collect the entire Trashman storyline that pits a mystically-powered, motorcycle-riding hero against the fascist state of "Amerika." This is a hard-to-find underground-era classic. ($14.95)

Foolbert Sturgeon, also known as Frank Stack, lends his unique approach to the Greek legends concerning the battle of the sexes in ***Amazons #1***, on sale in June. This book is a bit ribald in its retelling, so it's recommended for adult readers. ($2.95)

You've seen American comics, English comics, Japanese comics, Chinese comics,

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French comics, Argentinan comics--but Fantagraphics is the first company to bring you a heaping helping of Australian comics in ***Fox Comics Special #1,*** collecting 48 pages of work from the best of Australia's comics talent. ($2.95)

Inspector Canardo is a duck detective who adventures are told by Benoit Sokal. In "Shaggy Dog Story," the tale presented in ***Inspector Canardo #1***, a 48 page graphic album, the private eye discovers that murder investigations aren't all they're quacked up to be. Look for it in June. ($9.95)

If you're tired of bad black and white reprints of ***Prince Valiant***, then you're ready for the superb full-color reprint series that Fantagraphics has been doing for several years now. ***Prince Valiant Volume 6: Journey to Africa*** is the summer Prince Valiant release, reprinting stories from 1941 and 1942. ($14.95)

Usagi Yojimbo earns his own color special in July, featuring a new twenty page color story done just for this book plus some rarely-seen Yojimbo color from earlier years and a new "Gnuff" story by Mike Kazaleh. ($2.95)

If you're enjoying this ***CSN Summer Preview***, the odds are you might also enjoy July's ***Amazing Heroes #170***, which is their Preview Special. AH has switched to a 152-page format that they've priced at $4.95 an issue; they're trying to cover virtually every major title scheduled for the rest of 1989, so it'll give you even more info than our ***CSN Special*** does (but then, it does cost more, too)!

Kim Deitch, well known for his ***Hollywoodland*** collection, is back again with ***Shadowland,*** the first issue of a two issue comics mini-series that follows the evil exploits of young Al Ledicker and his Aunt Emily in a story of family feuding and family shame. Look for it in July. ($2.25 @)

City of Light is a French look at the American private eye graphic novel. It's the story of Ray Banana, an American detective, who travels to Paris to solve the mystery of a

painting that seems to be based on him! Look for it in July. ($9.95)

Fantagraphics' biggest project for the summer involved Gary Trudeau, best known in our field for his comics work. Fans who are also HBO viewers may have seen Trudeau's series ***Tanner '88***, which was an eleven-chapter series about a fictional Presidential candidates campaign. Fantagraphics has the right to publish the scripts and photos taken from the ***Tanner '88*** series, and they'll begin publishing the first volume of the series in August. The books will offer the scripts for the first five or six episodes, complete and uncut. This means that scenes that were edited out of the final filming will be included in the book. There will also be dozens of photos, Tanner's secret FBI file, and an introduction by Trudeau himself. You can get this one in softcover ($12.95), hardcover ($35), or signed and limited edition hardcover ($45).

A pair of ***Love and Rockets*** items make August a good month for Hernandez Bros. fans. ***Love & Rockets Book 8: Blood of Palomar*** features the "Human Diastrophism" storyline from ***Love & Rockets #21-26*** by Gilbert Hernandez. It's available in softcover ($12.95), hardcover ($35), or signed and limited edition hardcover ($45). There's also a ***Love & Rockets 1990 Calendar*** featuring all-new artwork, including a selection of original pin-ups and spot illustrations of the entire ***Love & Rockets*** gang. ($9.95)

Innovation

Innovation is another comic company plagued by delays, but they also have some ambitious summer plans. Some older projects that haven gotten off the ground yet, like ***Cyberpunk*** and ***Tales of the Stargrazers***, should begin this June.

Angry Shadows #1, set for June release, is a horror anthology series featuring work by Jim Mooney, Fay Perozich, Joe Phillips, John Bolton, and others. The 52-page bookshelf format black and white comic will carry a $4.95 pricetag.

The Dead Heat is an espionage-and-intrigue series by Vanessa Howle and Gary Washington, done in a manga style. The first issue of the limited series, due in June or July, will introduce the agents of the World Protection and Crisis Agency. ($1.95)

Cobalt Blue, previously announced as a spring title from Caliber, has found a new home at Innovation beginning this June. Mike Gustovich and Keith Pollard are the creators on this two-issue color limited series.

Gnatrat, Mark Martin's parody of the Dark Knight, Daredevil, and whatever else he feels like parodizing, will return to comics in June in a ***Gnatrat: The Movie*** one-shot that pokes fun at a certain darknight detective's summer film. ($2.25)

Justice Machine, formerly published by Comico, has moved to Innovation; ***The New Justice Machine #1*** is set to kick off a new three-issue limited series this June. Innovation promises that this new series by Lawrence, Banks, and Gustovich will restore the ***Justice Machine*** to their past glories. ($1.95) There's also a July/August ***Justice Machine Summer Spectacular*** one-shot featuring some reprints and some new material in a $2.75 extra-long comic.

Straw Men is the first issue of a twelve-issue limited series about genetic manipulation. Rob Davis of Scimidar does the artwork for this series written by Steve Vance and R.A. Jones. ($1.95)

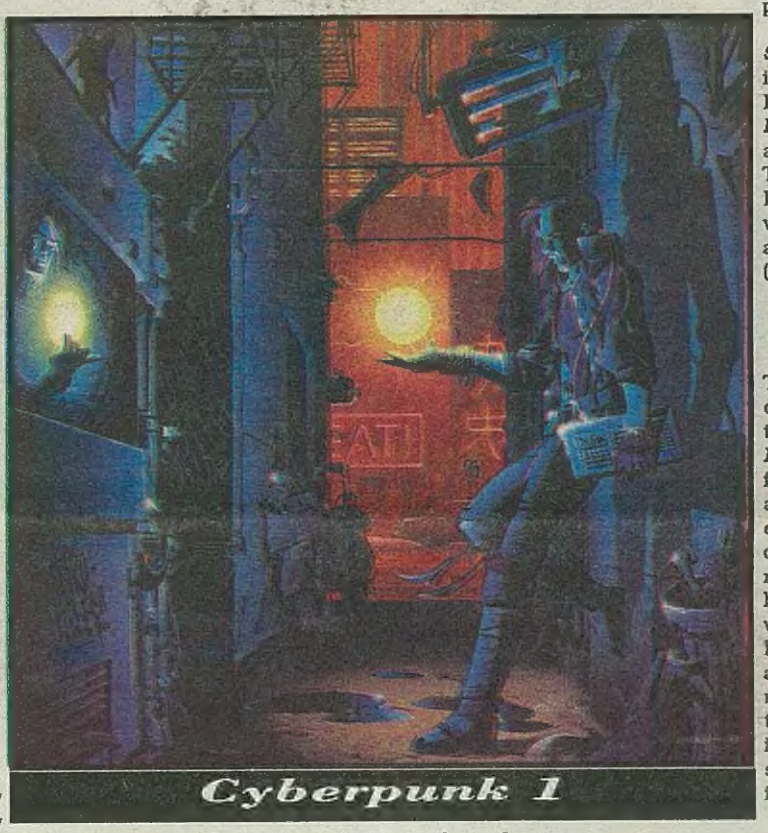
Innovation's major title for the summer is ***The Vampire LeStat,*** based on the vampire chronicles novel by Anne Rice. Faye Perozich and Joe Phillips team up to tell the story of an 18th Century Vampire living as a rock star in the 20th Century. This will be a fully painted series with John Bolton covers; Rice is closely supervising the production of the comic. ($2.50)

Later this summer, in either August or September, Innovation plans to launch its Comics on Disk series with a ***Justice Machine computer game*** for Atari, Amiga, IBM, or Macintosh (yay!). The game, in any computer format, will be priced at $14.95.

First

June, July, and August will be banner months for ***Badger*** fans. Roger Salick and Tim Vigil are teaming up for a three-issue Badger serial that runs through #s 52-54. At the same time, Mike Baron and a gaggle o' artists including Denys Cowan, Mike Zeck, Walt Simonson, and others present the final installments to ***Badger Goes Berserk***, a limited series that will have major ramifications in the ongoing Badger series afterwards. ($1.95@)

Sensei, the martial arts series bringing black belts Roger Salick and Val Mayerik together to tell a tale of a martial artist's travels through the past, present, and future. This is the second title in the First Fiction line; it will be followed in August by ***Squalor #1***, the beginning of Petrucha and Sutton's four-issue tale of a man who has discovered a



new dimension, A-time, where fantasy is reality, and events in each universe leave their mark on the other. This is some of Tom Sutton's best work in years, so fans of surreal fantasy will be thrilled with this latest First Fiction offering. ($2.75 @)

Matt Wagner continues as cover artist for ***Lone Wolf & Cub*** ($2.95 per issue); ***Dreadstar*** continues to present Jim Starlin's and Daina Graziunas' serialized novel Pawns in the back of each issue ($1.95 @); and ***Nexus*** continues to feature the guest art of Greg Guler, who's filling in for Steve Rude

while he finishes his ***World's Finest*** series for DC.

Olivia de Berardinis, the provocative and talented artist whose stunning portrait of Catherine and Vincent graced the cover of First's ***Beauty and the Beast*** graphic novel, will be featured in her own calendar--the second such calendar published by First Comics. The ***1990 Olivia Calendar*** will feature 13 full-color paintings by Olivia on a twelve-month calendar. ($9.95)

4Winds

The Chiefs of the East notecard series, originally scheduled for May release, was delayed until mid-June due to unexpectedly large orders from across the country. The set will feature three full-color portraits of Indian chiefs who will play a prominent part in Truman's upcoming ***Wilderness*** graphic novel series. ($6.95)

Speaking of ***Wilderness,*** the protagonist of that series, ***Simon Girty,*** is the subject of a limited edition print by Tim Truman set for July release. The 16" x 22" 325-copy print is priced at $40.

Subterra, 4Winds' July release, is the sequel to Barriero's, Dixon's, and Alcatena's ***Moving Fortress***, picking up shortly after that graphic novel left off. This storyline takes the hero, Bask D'Avregaut, underground where he becomes the captive of a subterranean civilization. ($8.98)

Gladstone

The collector of limited edition collectibles won't want to miss the ***Gladstone Album Deluxe Hardcover Set,*** featuring the first fifteen Gladstone graphic albums bound into one limited edition hardcover set. There are only *1000 total sets*, each numbered. The three hardcovers that make up this set will each have a 3-D gold foil Disney seal on them. With only a thousand total copies manufactured, you can expect this set to sell for far more than its original $150 by next summer. Look for the deluxe set in June or July.

Meanwhile, Barks fans will find a pair of important graphic albums awaiting them in the comic shops this summer. In July, ***Gladstone Album #20*** will reprint "Only A Poor Man, " the Uncle Scrooge story that totally defines the character of Scrooge McDuck. ($5.95) In August, ***Gladstone Album Special #1*** reprints the first Carl Barks Donald Duck comics story, "Pirate Gold, in an extra-length 72-page graphic album. ($9.95)

Graphitti

Graphitti has a line of Batman cover-reprint t-shirts scheduled for summer release, including shirts featuring the covers of ***Batman #1, Detective #27, and Detective #38.*** These four-color shirts will be of the high quality always associated with Graphitti products. ($12.95 @)

Groo comes to Graphitti this summer as the company offers a line of ***Groo cloisonne pins*** featuring Groo and the other major characters of the series on handsome high quality pins. ($5.95)

Betty was an instant hit when she appeared in the pages of ***The Rocketeer***; she'll be a three-dimensional hit when Graphitti's ***Betty statuette*** is released in August. This $39.95 figurine is based on a Dave Stevens drawing, and is a very faithful rendering in three dimensions of one of the best "good girls" in comics.

Hardcover releases include ***Someplace Strange*** (July- s&n, $45) and ***Grendel: The Devil Inside*** (August - s&n, $36).

Greater Mercury

Grips is the star at Greater Mercury; this

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company is devoted to continuing the Silverwolf line of comics, including ***Grips Adventures, Legion X-1, Legion X-2,*** and ***Edge.*** Unfortunately, Tim Vigil is no longer illustrating Grips--but Grips is still just as nasty and brutal as ever. ($2 each)

Hero

Hero remains very, very late on their releases, but their plans for this summer are certainly ambitious. Dennis Mallonee has promised ***Flare #4-7*** for summer release, continuing to feature 52 pages of good girl art and action-adventure stories in each issue ($2.75). In addition, August should bring ***Flare Annual #1*** by Mallonee and Marrinan, a 68-page annual reprinting three early Flare stories from the pages of Champions for $3.95. There are also two issues; a $2.95 ***Flare Magazine*** that is slated to reprint the contents of the first two issues of the ***Flare*** comic, along with new text pieces. Finally, ***The New Champions*** move to the deluxe format in June with ***New Champions #1,*** priced at $2.95.

Jademan

Jademan introduces its first new title since the company entered the American comics market over a year ago with ***Blood Sword Dynasty #1,*** a title that takes place following the events of ***The Blood Sword.*** Unlike the other Jademan titles, this book will feature only 36 pages of story and art for $1.25.

Kitchen Sink

The long-out-of-print ***Art of Will Eisner*** gets a second edition in June, complete with some new pages updating Will Eisner's career from the point where the first edition left off until the present. This is a lavishly illustrated 152-page trade paperback that no serious comics art fan should be without. ($12.95)

In July, ***Cadillacs and Dinosaurs*** brings the evocative artwork of Mark Schultz to trade paperback, reprinting the contents of ***Xenozoic Tales #1-4*** plus the premiere XT story from ***Death Rattle #8.*** There will also be some unpublished art and sketches, as well as a map of the Xenozoic regions. The trade paperback will be priced at $12.95; the limited and signed hardcover will carry a $25 pricetag.

Blab! is back in July; ***Blab! #4*** will be in the same small trade paperback size used for the previous issue, and will contain 128 pages of material by Mark Newgarden, Jaxon, Skip Williamson, Drew Friedman, Dan Clowes, and others. Furthermore, this issue of Blab! is an all-ages publication. ($7.95)

Megaton Man #1, the first appearance of Donald Simpson's over-muscled hero, is scheduled for reprinting in July; the reprint will feature a few new interior pages as well as new cover, all for the same $2 price of the original issue.

In August, Kitchen Sink ventures from the print medium to the sculpted form with their ***Omaha the Cat Dancer Figurine,*** a $49.95 limited edition 5.25" porcelain figure sculpted by Steve Kiwus. Each statue will be hand-painted; once the run is complete, the mold will be broken.

The ***Li'l Abner*** reprint series continues with Volume 6: 1940 Dailies. This edition contains a parody of Steinbeck's ***Grapes of Wrath*** along with another Sadie Hawkins Day adventure and material on the 1940 Li'L Abner film. ($16.95 sc/$27.95 hc)

Kitchen Sink will also be offering a wide variety of t-shirts this summer--the perfect thing for hot-weather wear! Li'l Abner, Cave Gal, Melody, Omaha, and Xenozoic Tales will all be featured on a white 50/50 t-shirt. ($12.95@)

Marvel

Several Marvel titles have already gone bi-weekly for the summer, including ***X-Men, Captain America, Wolverine,*** and ***The Amazing Spider-Man.*** Each will run six-part storylines that will continue throughout the biweekly run of the book, giving readers a double-dose of their favorite heroes each week.

Destroyer 1

Wolverine Saga is a four-issue limited bookshelf-format series that presents the origin (or what's known of it) and life story of Wolverine in a ***Marvel-Saga***-style package that consists of reprints of important panels from the various original sources, reorganized around text material by Peter Sanderson. This is the *ultimate* background-material collection of Wolverine information. ($3.95)

Punisher is having a very busy summer. In late June, ***Return to Big Nothing,*** the first ***Punisher*** hardcover, will be released. This $16.95 graphic novel reunites the team of Steven Grant, Mike Zeck, and John Beatty to tell an all-new story of the Punisher's return to the camp where he first learned so many of the skills that he utilizes today. In August, a second hardcover ***Punisher*** graphic novel, ***Intruder,*** brings together Mike Baron and Bill Reinhold, the team responsible for the ***Badger: Hexbreaker*** graphic novel. Priced at $15.95, this hardcover graphic novel features a showdown between the Punisher and a super-secret extremist paramilitary group whose goals seem very similar to his--but whose methods are very, very different. This story will also reveal hitherto-unknown facts about Frank Castle's past.

Meanwhile, the Punisher continues in two titles--***Punisher*** and ***Punisher War Journal***--and he will also be featured in a new reprint title, ***Punisher Classics #1.*** This 64-page bookshelf format comic reprints two early Punisher stories from extremely hard-to-find black-and-white magazines; the stories will be published in color for the first time at the end of August. ($4.95)

Of course, the ***Punisher*** black and white magazine offers Punisher fans yet another version of their favorite high-action hero--this time the format is black-and-white. The first issue of the $2.25 magazine, on sale in early June, will reprint the first issue of the Grant/Zeck/Beatty limited series.

Look for a wide variety of ***Punisher*** posters in July as Marvel reprints the first four ***Punisher*** Posters in addition to a new poster by Brent Anderson. ($4.95 @)

But what of all those different format ***Punisher movie adaptations,*** you ask? Well, they *were* slated to appear through the June-July period, but the sale and possible dissolution of New World Films has put the release of the ***Punisher film*** on hiatus. When the final decisions are made about the film, ***Punisher*** fans will find the Potts/Anderson adaptation on the racks waiting for them. Insiders at Marvel say it's very likely to appear later this summer--perhaps August or early September.

A bookshelf-format limited series tying with the Punisher is a strong summer release. ***Shadowmasters*** is a four-issue series by Potts, Lawliss, and Heath; it features characters originally introduced in the ***Punisher,*** and events in this series will cross over with the ***Punisher*** books as well. The first issue of the monthly series should begin in June. ($3.95)

The final installments of the ongoing Annual storyline, Atlantis Attacks, will appear in June in ***Avengers Annual #18, New Mutants Annual #9, X-Factor Annual #4,*** and ***Web of Spider-Man Annual #5,*** and in July in ***Avengers West Coast Annual #4, Thor Annual #14,*** and ***Fantastic Four Annual #22.*** ($2 @)

One of the newest Avengers becomes one of the newest first issues in the Marvel Universe as ***Quasar*** gets his own series in June. The series will explore the origin of the power bands and of Quasar before moving on to new adventures. Mark Gruenwald joins with ***Avengers*** artist Paul Ryan on this new series. ($1)

The ***Marvel Universe Update*** series will wrap up in June, July, and August; this series presents a handy alphabetical reference to all the new additions to the Marvel Universe, illustrated by Marvel's top artists. ($1.50)

John Byrne fans may lament his absence from ***Fantastic Four*** even today--but they'll get a chance to relive those bygone days when Marvel releases the ***Fantastic Four Trade Paperback*** in late June. This trade paperback presents a re-edited, specially compiled version of the "Trial of Galactus" storyline from ***Fantastic Four #244-262,*** complete with a new cover and introduction by John Byrne. ($12.95)

Sometime this summer, ***Havok & Wolverine: Meltdown #4*** will appear, wrapping up one of the most popular--and longest running--four issue limited series in Marvel history. The book is tentatively scheduled for mid- to late-June.

Everyone has t-shirts--and Marvel's no exception. In June, they'll offer a ***MarvelComicasaurus*** T-shirt, featuring the ultimate "saurus family" comic collector on a full-color shirt. The high-quality shirt features the comicasaurus surrounded by stacks of comics and boxes. ($16.50) In July, Marvel will offer a ***Nick Fury & Wolverine T-Shirt*** featuring silk-screened art based on Howard Chaykin's cover to the upcoming hardcover graphic novel. ($12.95)

If you need even more Marvel apparel, what could be better than a Todd McFarlane-designed ***Spider-Man cap***? Look for it in August! ($6.95)

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade is the summer's hit film, and Marvel is offering the adaptation in black and white and in color. Fans will have their choice of comic or magazine-format adaptations by Michelinie and Blevins in June and July.

SHIELD is the spring's hit series from Marvel, and the series continues into the summer with the development of a new SHIELD and further confrontations with the Death's Head squad. Keith Pollard takes over as penciller with the June issue, #2, joining writer Bob Harras and inker Kim DeMulder, both of whom were around for last year's ***SHIELD*** limited series. ($1.50)

What If? has been a bit hit for Marvel; this summer offers a storyline that shows us what would happen if the black costume had possessed Spider-Man (#4, by Fingeroth, Bagley, and Williams); if Wonder Man didn't die and if the Vision had destroyed the Avengers (#5, by Valentino); and if the X-Men had lost Inferno (#6, Fingeroth, Lim, and Williams). ($1.25, 32 pages with no ads)

At the end of June, one of the most beautiful graphic novels ever released by Marvel will hit the stands. ***Dr. Doom & Dr. Strange*** unites Roger Stern, Mike Mignola, and Mark Badger in an 80-page story that unites the two Doctors in an effort to save the soul of Doom's mother from the control of Mephisto. Insiders who've seen the full book predict it may be the sleeper hit of the summer--you won't believe how impressive the art is! ($17.95)

Freddy Krueger certainly isn't giving Marvel any bad dreams this summer; instead, they're dreaming of incredible success with their new ***Nightmare on Elm Street Magazine #1,*** debuting in mid-July. The black and white magazine by Gerber, Buckler, DeZuniga, and Alcala presents hitherto-unknown facts about Freddy's early days, and introduces new characters who will play an important part in upcoming stories. ($2.25)

The ***Avengers Button set*** is non-comics special item for the summer. The set presents six full-color buttons shrink-wrapped on a special comic-sized display card, ***a la*** the ***Batman*** buttons from DC. There will be only one printing of these buttons, so don't miss out on 'em! ($8.95)

Meanwhile, another Avenger gets her own special in mid-July. ***Captain Marvel Special #1*** gives the good Captain new powers courtesy of Wayn McDuffie, Mark Bright, Frank Bolle, and Stan Drake. The 48-page one-shot will also feature her in battle with a trio of heavyweight villains. ($1.50)

Akira struggles to get back on schedule this summer, but Marvel has a special offering in July to help tide over the Otomo fans who can't get enough of his work. ***The Artwork of Otomo*** hardcover is a coffee-table book featuring elaborate color and black-and-white illustrations by Katsuhiro Otomo, artist/creator of ***Akira.*** The book gives us a look at his versatility in advertising, illustration, animation, and comics. The text will be printed in both English and Japanese. ($35)

Marvel UK brings ***The Sleeze Brothers*** to Marvel's American fans in July. These two bungling futuristic detectives, Deadbeat and El Ape Sleeze, won't turn down any job so long as it pays--they have no scruples at all. This series gives Americans a healthy dose of that cynical and sometimes crass British humor that most fans can't get enough of. ($1.75)

The summer's fourth major hardcover graphic novel will make July even hotter in the comics shops. ***Nick Fury & Wolverine: The Scorpio Connection*** unites Howard Chaykin and writer Archie Goodwin to tell the story of the return of Scorpio, who's back from the dead--and none too happy about it. Wolverine wants him dead for personal reasons; Fury wants him alive for personal reasons. The 64-page graphic novel will show what happens when both heroes use whatever means are available to them to track Scorpio down. ($16.95)

Police Academy comes to Marvel in July, featuring wacky adventures of the worst police squad on Earth. DeCesare, Post, and Roettcher present new Police Academy stories in each issue.

The long-awaited ***Elektra*** graphic novel by Frank Miller and Lynn Varley won't make it out this summer after all--but fans who have to have a dose of Elektra will be able to add an Elektra poster featuring the cover of ***Elektra: Assassin #1*** to their wall decorations. ($4.95) While they're gazing at the poster, they can read ***Elektra Saga,*** the trade paperback collecting all four issues of the ***Elektra Saga*** comics series, which in turn re-presented all the Elektra pages by Frank Miller from her ***Daredevil*** days, re-edited into a cohesive storyline. ($16.95)

Marvel's black-and-white-magazine blitz continues in August with the final magazine addition, ***The Destroyer #1*** by Will Murray (the current writer of the paperback series) and Lee Weeks. If you saw the cult-favorite Remo Williams film from a few years ago, you'll know what the ***Destroyer*** is like--martial arts action, adventure, and humor all combined in liberal doses. ($2.25)

If "cyberpunk" means anything to you, then you're probably familiar with William Gibson's novel ***Neuromancer,*** the book that started the cyberpunk movement. It's a story that unites a computer jockey and a computer-enhanced mercenary in a battle in cyberspace. This graphic novel by DeHaven and Jensen marks

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Masterworks as being Christmas-Preview material--but Marvel has such big plans for 1989 that they're releasing their first Marvel Masterworks original volume in late August or early September. ***Marvel Masterworks Volume 8*** will compile ***The Incredible Hulk #1-6*** into one 160-page $24.95 volume. This book features some of the hardest-to-find Marvel Silver Age books in one handsomely-recolored volume.

Mirage

Turtles fans may want to start looking for extra part-time work; it's going to be a big Turtles summer. ***Shellshock,*** set for June release, will feature 19 reprinted ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** stories and five all-new stories by Donald Simpson, Michael Zulli, Michael Dooney, and Stan Sakai. If all that isn't enough, they've added unpublished pin-up pages and a new version of the Turtles origin! ($12.95)

Late June or early July will also see the release of ***Melting Pot #1***, the first full-color issue of a two-issue series filled with strange alien creatures and high adventure. Eastman and Talbot are the masterminds for this series. ($3.50)

Gizmo and the Fugitoid is a two-issue miniseries that kicks off in late June or early July, wrapping up the Federat-Triceraton-Transmat saga for once and for all. Michael Dooney and Peter Laird tie up the loose ends in this black-and-white series. ($1.75 @)

Two very different art styles mesh quite well in ***Commandosaurs,*** a four-issue series set to begin in July. Steve Bissette and Peter Laird present their own rather unique dinosaurs: intelligent, highly technological creatures who are forced to battle the Terrorsaurs and the destructive Gellies. ($1.75 @)

July and August will also bring fans the final installments of Eastman's and Laird's Turtles in New York storyline in ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles***. That's right: Eastman and Laird are back on the book that made them famous! ($1.75 @)

Northstar

Faust and ***The Omen*** have been very successful for Northstar--in fact, they're having to reprint ***Faust*** #1 and #2 in July--and undoubtedly will continue that success as Tim Vigil fans flock to the stands looking for them throughout the sultry months to come. But the folks at Northstar have other things in mind as well.

Horror, the Illustrated Book of Fears is just what the name implies: a large anthology of horror stories by a number of well-known horror authors and artists. This 72-page anthology is priced at $3.95, and is aimed at mature readers because of nudity in the storyline.

The Cases of Sherlock Holmes moves to Northstar from its old home at Renegade this August with the sixteenth issue; Dan Day will continue his faithful adaptations of Arthur Conan Doyle's original Holmes stories. If you've missed out on earlier issues , you might want to check them out in ***The Cases of Sherlock Holmes Volume One***, a trade paperback collecting four issues of the comic book into a single 120-page edition. ($8.95) There will be a slipcased hardcover edition for fans who want a more impressive package. ($29.95)

NBM

The Silent Invasion will be available in July in four trade paperback and four hardcover volumes. The editions will reprint the entire series in a slipcased collection. ($42.50 tpb, $125 hc)

NEC

The Tick is going strong as the hottest superhero parody in comics; this June will see the release of the latest adventures of this superhero-spoof in ***The Tick #5***. This issue will also feature an eight-page preview of ***The Mighty Mites*** by Edlund and Banks--the same team who turns out these Tick stories! At the same time, you can keep an eye out for ***The Ben Edlund Sketchbook***, featuring early comic art and sketches by ***The Tick***'s artist, along with previews of upcoming Tick villains, strips, designs, and more.

So who are ***The Mighty Mites***, the characters we mentioned in the previous paragraph? They're Edlund's and Banks' cutesy-parody of modern comics cliches, featuring Hotspot, Beezer the Strange, Doctor Fantastic, Faze, and the Punishing Wolverer. This series makes fun of the comics and the creators in a very tongue-in-cheek style. Look for 'em in July. ($1.95)

New Comics

The Young Master is gone--but the storyline isn't over. Instead, the book will become ***The Master*** when it starts over with a new first issue at the end of June. Chuck Dixon and Val Mayerik continue with this story that takes the Master to America. ($1.95) Martial arts fans may also want a copy of the August-release ***Master poster*** featuring a fully-painted Val Mayerik rendition of The Master.

Demonblade, the Chuck Dixon-Alex Nino fantasy series that was slated to begin this spring, was delayed until late June or early July because of the theft of Nino's original artwork. He's almost through redrawing everything now, though, so you can expect to see the book on the racks in a few weeks!

In August, ***Tommy and the Monsters*** (previously announced last winter from Nicotat) finds its home at New Comics. This series is written by Jacobs and Jones, the clever fellows who make ***The Trouble With Girls*** so much fun to read. And take a look at that Art Adams cover! ($1.95)

NOW

Racer-X takes a turn in a new and more exciting direction in June when Chuck Dixon, Todd Fox, and Enrique Villagran revamp the character in ***Racer-X Volume 2 #1.*** The new series is more realistic and rugged in approach, and should appeal to fans who found the old series a bit lifeless. ($1.75)

Ghostbusters II will make it into comics this summer courtesy of NOW, who will adapt the film into a four-issue biweekly limited series. Regular ***Real Ghostbusters*** creators Jim Van Hise and John Tobias are adapting the film in the same style as the ***Real Ghostbusters*** comic. Since this film is expected to be one of the summer's biggest hit, the comic should be a very wanted book indeed. ($1.95)

Speed Racer takes off on a cross-country road rally that takes him to both the Chicago Comics Convention and the San Diego Con this summer, courtesy of writer Lamar Waldron and artist Norm Dwyer. ($1.75)

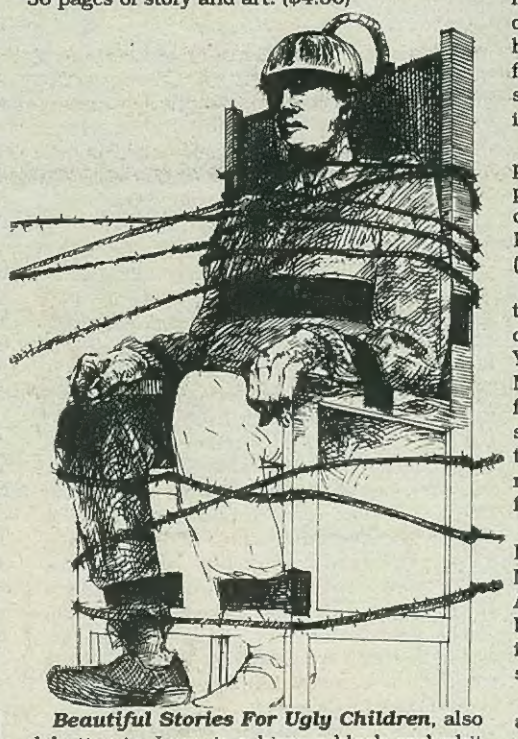
Speed Racer fans probably met the character initially through his animated series. Since those cartoons are virtually unavailable in America today, NOW Comics is bringing the episodes to comics fans on VHS videotape. Three volumes featuring two half-hour episodes per volume should be pulling into comic shops in late August or early September; each tape will be priced at $29.95.

NOW's big book for the summer is most certainly ***The Green Hornet*** by Ron Fortier and Jeff Butler. Butler, the original artist on ***The Badger***, is back in comics after a long absence from the monthly-comics field, and NOW is happy to have him. This series will explore the history of the Green Hornet from the radio days through the Sixties and into the 90's. Everyone is excited about this book--and Jim Steranko, ***Green Hornet*** fan from way back, was so thrilled to hear about the Hornet's return that he agreed to do the over for the first 64-page issue! ($2.95 for the first issue - $1.75 thereafter)

Piranha Press

Mark Nevelow is putting Piranha into high gear this summer, with series, graphic novels, and trade paperback galore.

Etc., beginning in June, is a five-issue prestige-format series by Tim Conrad and Michael Davis that tells the story of a geneticist's clone, raised in isolation, thrust into the real world of the near future. Each issue of this fully-painted series will feature 56 pages of story and art. ($4.50)



Beautiful Stories For Ugly Children, also debuting in June, is a bizarre black and whit comic by Dave Louapre and Dan Sweetman that features a different offbeat tale in each issue. Clowns' adventures on their day off, a tap dancer who wants to quit but can't, a family that's perfectly normal in every way except that they're all dead, a first-person story of Satan's life and how he came to be the keeper of damned souls--these are all fair game for the irreverent approach of Louapre and Sweetman. ($2)

The Sinners, scheduled for late June, is a graphic novel that tells the story of an old man who remembers his life from privileged childhood to adult poverty--and yet he's strangely happy with the way things have turned out. "It's like what you would get if a German expressionist illustrated a Dostoevsky story," editor Nevelow said, and that's an appropriate enough description. Readers who are looking for something more meaningful in comics should take a look at this one. ($9.95)

Desert Dreams, or Miriam's Search for Divine Bliss is a 104-page horizontal trade paperback by Alison Marek that tells the story of a little girl who seems to have a great life--but she's not satisfied with the superficial illusions of privilege and prosperity. It's a hip, sometimes humorous look at childhood and aspirations for happiness. ($5.95)

Gregory, an August release from Piranha, is the most offbeat book the company has thus far scheduled. It's the story of an innocent named Gregory, a young boy who's been institutionalized for as long as he can remember. His primary acquaintances are an orderly and a rat; the story shows us the world through Gregory's eyes. A brief description of this book's concept can't begin to convey the humor that creator Marc Hempel brings to this book. ($7.95)

Quality

Classic Judge Dredd stories by Brian Bolland and others will be reprinted for a new audience in ***The Law of Dredd,*** a series set to kick off in June. These are the stories that made Dredd's US reputation, so newcomers won't want to miss 'em in this inexpensive $1.50 package.

That's not the only new Dredd item Quality has on line for the summer, though; July will bring ***Judge Dredd's Crime File Volume One***, the first of a four-volume series featuring newly recolored stories done in full painted color. These books print stories never before seen in the US. Look for a new trade paperback volume each month. ($5.95 @)

Quality also has a variety of mutant-related t-shirts, buttons, and pins scheduled for summer release--and since almost everyone enjoys one mutant or another, these items should have a very wide appeal.

Slave Labor

Screenplay, Ashley Holt's story of a campy television series of the sixties reborn into a grim movie of the eighties, begins its six-issue run in June. This isn't just a comics retelling of the ***Batman*** television-to-film transition, however; instead, it's a story of a mysterious force's involvement in making a television series--and in the deaths of many of those involved. ($1.75 @)

Pirate Corp$*** returns to regular comics publication in June with a new series that picks up where the ***Pirate Corp$ Special left off. Evan Dorkin takes you along on the Pirate Corp$ irreverently wacky adventures. ($1.75)

Slave Labor is proud to announce that they've finally hooked one of the worst comics of all time--***Sidney Mellon's Thunderskull.*** You'll get to see it in July, courtesy of "Sidney Mellon" and Chuck Austen. If you've forgotten who Sidney Mellon is, maybe you should reread some of his columns praising the glories of Marvel's 70's-style comics and ridiculing anything that seems very different from that norm. ($1.95)

Chuck Austen's earliest work for Slave Labor appeared in ***Hero Sandwich #s 1-4***. Now those of you who missed Vado's and Austen's humor-adventure superhero team book will have a chance to read those early issues in the ***Hero Sandwich Graphic Novel***, set for August release. ($7.95)

Shakespeare comes to comics in ***Macbeth,*** a "way cool jr. format" book (you and I would call it prestige format) adapting the Shakespearean play into a 48-page comics tale. Nieves and Han bring you their version of Shakespeare in August. ($2.95)

Spiderbaby Grafix

Taboo, the horror series edited by Steve Bissette, will continue with the delayed ***Taboo #2*** set for June release and the third issue set to follow a month to a month and a half later. Both issues will feature installments of Alan Moore's and Eddie Campbell's sixteen-part horror graphic novel "From Hell," along with many other stories by prominent horror and

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comics creators. ($9.95 @)

Spider Optics

Spyder has made quite a name for himself on ***Whisper*** for First; in June, he returns to his first series, ***Icon Devil,*** to tell the story of five individuals who hope to halt a mass suicide initiative that is sweeping the world of 2037. The new ***Icon Devil*** will be a twelve issue bi-monthly series completely reworked and improved from its earlier incarnation, according to the publishers. ($1.85)

Topps

Topps' ***Batman Painted Card Collectors Set*** ($24.95) is set for June release; the set will reprint the entire series of painted cards from the 1960's. A month later, the ***Batman Movie Card Collectors' Set*** will feature the 132-card, 22-sticker set released nationwide, along with 11 extra cards available only in the collectors' set. In August, Topps follows that up with a second ***Batman Collectors' Card Set,*** featuring another collection of photo cards ($29.95). All the ***Collectors Card Sets*** are heavily laminated and are printed on ultra-white card stock.

Batman fans will also want to latch on to a copy of Topp's ***Batman Souvenir Magazine,*** a look at the Batman film and Batman's comic book history. ($2.95)

August brings Michael Moorcock fans a new series, ***Saga of the Man-Elf,*** which will feature many of the characters from Moorcock's Jerry Cornelius novels. The series will contain three five-issue parts that will develop the story in the complex, convoluted method first developed for the books by Moorcock himself. ($2.25)

3-D Zone

3-D Zone #21, on sale in June, will present an original film-noirish detective story by Steve Vance. **The Deep Deep Sleep** is a story of a detective investigating a murder in near-future Los Angeles; of course, all 3-D effects are done by Ray Zone himself.

In July, ***3-D Zone #22*** will feature a Mr. Monster Pin-Up Collection, featuring art by Gilbert, Moore, Stevens, and others. ***3-D Zone #23,*** on sale in August, will feature a 3-D adaptation of ***God's Man*** by Lynd Ward, an original woodcut graphic novel from 1929.

Viz

Viz will wrap up ***Grey***'s ongoing storyline in July with a 72-page $3.25 finale that shows Grey that being a citizen isn't all he had hoped for after all. Look for ***Grey*** to be reprinted in a two-volume graphic novel set beginning in August, complete with a full-color dustjacket in the Japanese manga format. ($16.95 per volume) This is the same format as the ***Mai Graphic Novels***, which will appear in July, August, and September.

Vortex

Black Kiss should reach its climax in June or July; after that, look for three prestige-format reprint volumes entitled ***The Big Black Kiss*** collecting all twelve issues into a more durable format, beginning in July or August. ($3.75 @) ***Black Kiss*** fans may also want a copy of the signed and number promotional poster Chaykin designed for the series ($25).

In July, Vortex will release a ***Yummy Fur*** trade paperback reprinting the first twelve issues of the series, along with a new story by Chester Brown. ($9.95)

WaRP

The Original Elfquest reprints the black-and-white magazine ***Elfquest*** issues in the same format as they originally appeared. Look for the first issue to appear in June; the book will continue on a monthly basis after that.

In August, WaRP subsidiary Father Tree Press will offer ***Elfquest: Wolfriders 1990***, a calendar featuring 12 all-new large paintings by Wendy Pini. ($9.95)

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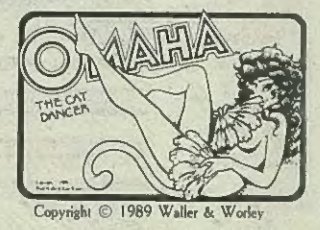

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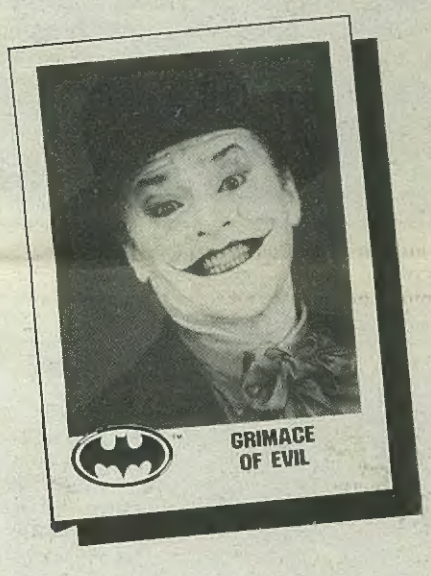

Trident Comics

Trident begins its invasion of American comics racks in June with ***Trident #1***, an anthology title featuring the best of British newcomers and established talents. Each 52-page issue is priced at $3.50.

Trident's major new release for July is ***Savior,*** a series that explores the roles of religion and the superhero in a story of the Anti-Christ and his attempts to block the Second Coming of Christ. The series will be very controversial, and is intended for mature readers. ($1.95)

Have you seen anything in this issue of ***Comic Shop News*** that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

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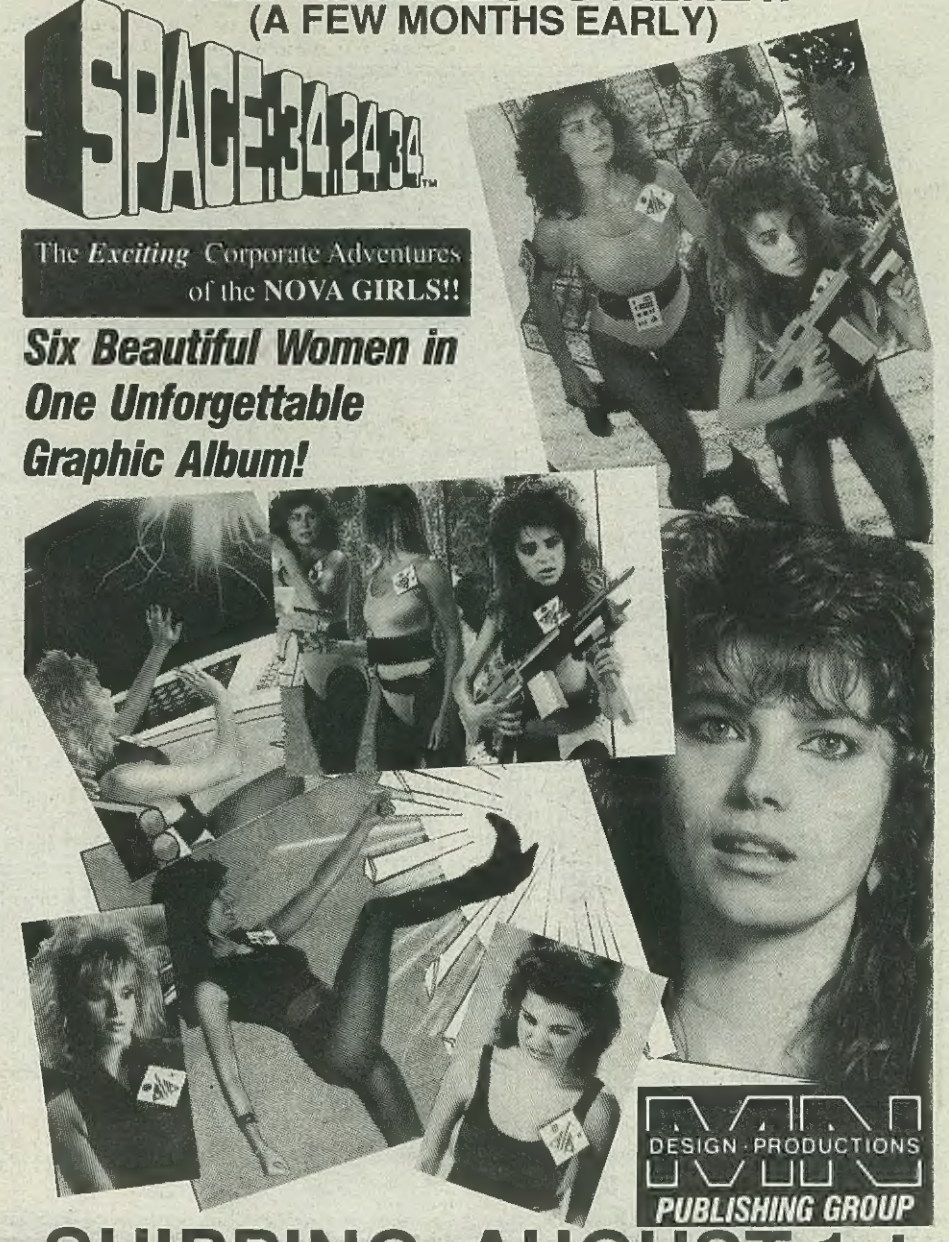

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